

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION CONCERNING
TRANSMITTAL OF COPY OF INTERNATIONAL
PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OF THE PATENT COOPERATION
TREATY)
(PCT Rule 44bis.1(c))

To:

FENSTER, Paul
FENSTER & COMPANY, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
LTD.
P. O. BOX 10256
49002 PETACH TIKVA
ISRAËL

RECEIVED**20 MAY 2007**FILE No. **34778**

G.E. EHRLICH (1995) L

Date of mailing (day/month/year)
26 April 2007 (26.04.2007)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
110/04372 **34778**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

International application No.
PCT/IL2005/000812

International filing date (day/month/year)
31 July 2005 (31.07.2005)

Priority date (day/month/year)
30 July 2004 (30.07.2004)

Applicant

DISC-O-TECH MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES, LTD. et al

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Simin Baharlou

Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70

e-mail: pt09.pct@wipo.int

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44*bis*)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 110/04372	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/IL2005/000812	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 31 July 2005 (31.07.2005)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 30 July 2004 (30.07.2004)
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237		
Applicant DISC-O-TECH MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES, LTD.		

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 *bis*.1(a).
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.

In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44*bis*.3(c) and 93*bis*.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44*bis* .2).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Date of issuance of this report 17 April 2007 (17.04.2007)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Authorized officer Simin Baharlou e-mail: pt09.pct@wipo.int</td> </tr> </table>	Date of issuance of this report 17 April 2007 (17.04.2007)	Authorized officer Simin Baharlou e-mail: pt09.pct@wipo.int
Date of issuance of this report 17 April 2007 (17.04.2007)			
Authorized officer Simin Baharlou e-mail: pt09.pct@wipo.int			

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:
PAUL FENSTER
FENSTER & COMPANY
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LTD.
P.O. BOX 10256
PETACH TIKVA, ISRAEL 49002

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 110/04372		Date of mailing <i>(day/month/year)</i> 28 FEB 2007
FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below		
International application No. PCT/IL05/00812	International filing date <i>(day/month/year)</i> 31 July 2005 (31.07.2005)	Priority date <i>(day/month/year)</i> 30 July 2004 (30.07.2004)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC IPC: A61F 2/44(2006.01) USPC: 623/17.11		
Applicant DISC-O-TECH MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES, LTD.		

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the opinion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/ US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201	Date of completion of this opinion 24 January 2007 (24.01.2007)	Authorized officer Paul B. Prehlic Telephone No. (571)
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Form PCT/ISA/237 (cover sheet) (April 2005)

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/IL05/00812

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

- ☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed
☐ a translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material

- ☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

- ☐ on paper
☐ in electronic form

c. time of filing/furnishing

- ☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in electronic form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.

3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/IL05/00812

Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention

1. ☒ In response to the invitation (Form PCT/ISA/206) to pay additional fees the applicant has, within the applicable time limit:
- ☐ paid additional fees
 - ☐ paid additional fees under protest and, where applicable, the protest fee
 - ☐ paid additional fees under protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid
 - ☒ not paid additional fees
2. ☐ This Authority found that the requirement of unity of invention is not complied with and chose not to invite the applicant to pay additional fees.
3. This Authority considers that the requirement of unity of invention in accordance with Rule 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 is
- ☐ complied with
 - ☒ not complied with for the following reasons:
See the lack of unity section of the International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/210)

4. Consequently, this opinion has been established in respect of the following parts of the international application:

- ☐ all parts.
- ☒ the parts relating to claims Nos. 1-39, 44-49, 51 and 63

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/IL05/00812

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43 bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)

Claims Please See Continuation Sheet YES

Claims Please See Continuation Sheet NO

Inventive step (IS)

Claims Please See Continuation Sheet YES

Claims Please See Continuation Sheet NO

Industrial applicability (IA)

Claims Please See Continuation Sheet YES

Claims Please See Continuation Sheet NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Claims 1-3, 4, 6-8, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 30, 34, 35, 38, 39, and 44-48 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by BAO et al (US 5,534,028) where the material is fully polymerized prior to insertion and inserting it into the body causes it to soften as it absorbs water; see Table I and column 11, lines 14-40.

Claim 63 lacks novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by PELLEGRINO et al (US 2003/0181963); see paragraph [0148].

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7-9, 14, 18, 27, 30, 31, 33-35, 37-39, 44-47, and 49 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by ROSS et al (US 6,264,659); see the abstract, column 2, line 61 et seq. and column 6, line 35 et seq.

Claim 36 lacks an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over ROSS et al (US 6,264,659) in view of FRONING (US 3,875,595). ROSS teaches inserting the material into the body but not the step of constraining it as claimed. However, FRONING teaches that it was known to the art to insert a prosthetic with a constraining member, such as an inflatable member, in order to constrain the inserted material; see the figures and the corresponding description thereof. Therefore, it is the Examiner's position that it would have been obvious to insert a constraining device into the vertebral area during the ROSS procedure for the same reasons that FRONING does the same or to control the shape and size of the inserted material.

Claims 10-13, 15-17, 19-21, 25, 26, 29, 32, and 51 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(3), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a Shore A hardness in the range claimed, the viscosity in the claimed range, the introduction pressure range, an extrusion aperture of 3 mm or 1.5 mm, introduction using a motor, introduction using a hydraulic source, cutting the material away from the delivery system, or accessing the space with a guidewire.

Claims 1-39, 44-49, 51, and 63 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4), and thus they possess industrial applicability because the subject matter claimed can be made or used in industry.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.
PCT/IL05/00812

Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

V.1. Reasoned Statements:

The opinion as to Novelty was positive (Yes) with respect to claims 10-13, 15-17, 19-21, 25, 26, 29, 32, 36, and 51

The opinion as to Novelty was negative (No) with respect to claims 1-9, 14, 18, 22-24, 27, 28, 30, 31, 33-35, 37-39, 44-49 and 63

The opinion as to Inventive Step was positive (Yes) with respect to claims 10-13, 15-17, 19-21, 25, 26, 29, 32, and 51

The opinion as to Inventive Step was negative (NO) with respect to claims 1-9, 14, 18, 22-24, 27, 28, 30, 31, 33-39, 44-49, and 63

The opinion as to Industrial Applicability was positive (YES) with respect to claims 1-39, 44-49, 51, and 63

The opinion as to Industrial Applicability was negative (NO) with respect to claims NONE